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In The United States Designated Office

In re Application of:

Inventor: Klaus Pfeffer

Application No: To be assigned

Filed: Herewith

For: TAQMAN™-PCR FOR
THE DETECTION OF
PATHOGENIC E. COLI
STRAINS

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

BOX PCT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This preliminary amendment is being filed concurrently with the above identified application which is entering the U. S. national stage from an International Application (PCT 98/EP98/02341) under 35 U.S.C. § 371. Applicant had filed amended claims in PCT 98/EP98/02341 under Article 34 on July 12, 1999 with the International Preliminary Examining Authority (IPEA). A copy of the claims as amended under Article 34 is attached as Exhibit A for the Examiner's reference. The amended claims presented herewith below, are based on the claims as amended under Article 34.

Please enter the following Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified patent application filed **herewith before calculating the claim fees.**

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 4, 8, 9, 16, and 17 as follows: